Women in mythology tend to get a bad reputation; upon first glance, the women seem to be weak, dense and vulnerable. However, upon closer examination, we find that women in mythology serve a purpose that is much more important than some of the more popular “Godly” men that populate the literature.

Your job is going to pick one female goddess that we have studies and tell me what Archetype they fit into and why.

Be very specific, citing examples from history and folklore that will support your point. Although we may only have a few examples from class, feel free to expand your research and pick more that interest you.

**Archetype Examples**

**Elementary Character of the Feminine:**

* Key concepts associated with all Elementary feminine figures:
  + figures are older
  + figures are powerful, superior to ego (protagonist)
  + figures are maternal (positive or negative), static, cyclical
  + figures tend to act directly, out of their own power
  + symbolism tends to have a physical, bodily, corporeal accent
* Positive Elementary Figure (M+)—**GOOD MOTHER**
  + aids protagonist by her overwhelming power—protects, shelters, nourishes
  + tends to be associated with earth colors and vegetation imagery
  + has a matronly beauty
* Negative Elementary Figure (M-)—**TERRIBLE MOTHER, OLD WITCH**
  + attacks or destroys protagonist by her overwhelming power—traps, imprisons, devours, dismembers, castrates
  + tends to be associated with black & red colors and blood & death imagery
  + is ugly and/or has monstrous qualities (often accompanied by phallic symbolism)

**Transformative Character of the Feminine:**

* Key concepts associated with all Transformative feminine figures:
  + figures are younger
  + figures are peers, co-equal with ego (protagonist)
  + figures are dynamic, instigators of positive or negative change
  + figures tend to act indirectly, influencing and using the power of other people or things
  + symbolism tends to have a psychological accent
* Positive Transformative Figure (A+)—**INSPIRING VIRGIN**
  + aids protagonist by attracting and inspiring him (especially through sublimation of sexuality)
  + tends to be associated with pale or pastel colors (especially sky colors—blue & white)
  + has a natural, innocent, ethereal beauty
* Negative Transformative Figure (A-)—**SEDUCTRESS, YOUNG WITCH**
  + weakens or destroys protagonist by seduction, sexual allurement, enticement, negative enchantment
  + tends to be associated with vivid colors, especially red & black
  + has a full-bodied, voluptuous, exotic beauty

**Possible women to choose**

* **Hera**
* **Demeter**
* **Persephone**
* **Aphrodite**
* **Athena**
* **Arachne**
* **Galatea**
* **Pandora**
* **Echo**
* **Aurora**
* **Atlanta**
* **Thetis**
* **Helen**

**The Specs**

* **12 Font-Times New Roman**
* **2-3 Pages**
* **2-3 Sources**
  + **Cited Properly**
* **Works Cited page**
* **Underline your thesis**